

# Cornwall Newsletter

## *Public Service Awards Given to Cornwall Residents*

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### Special points of interest:

- State Primary Election will be August 24, 2010. This is much earlier than usual. Early voting or absentee ballots are available starting July 12, 2010. Be sure to register to vote by August 18, 2010. Call Sue Johnson at 462-2775 with questions!!!

Deb Markowitz, the Vermont Secretary of State started a program back in the year 2000 to thank and show appreciation to town residents throughout Vermont that have given at least 20 years of service to their town or city. This year's Addison County awards ceremony was held in Middlebury at the American Legion Hall on May 14, 2010. For those who are being awarded for their first 20 years of service, they receive a certificate and for those who have added additional 5 year increments to their service record, receive a pin. Those people receiving awards for service to the Town of Cornwall this year include: Joan Bingham, 35 years; Cynthia Peet, 43 years; David Berno, 32 years; Vaughn Berno, 30 years;

Robert Bingham, 51 years; Michael Brinkman, 35 years; Rodney Cadoret, 29 years; Junius Calitri, 25 years; Leo Gorton Jr., 27 years; Stu Johnson, 30 years; Maurice Laframboise, 41 years; Kenneth Manchester Jr., 44 years; Edward Peet, 38 years; David Sears, 30 years; Charles Bearor, 26 years; Dennis Rheume, 20 years;

Joseph Severy, 23 years; Roth W. "T" Tall, 20 years; Barbara Laframboise, 20 years and Barbara Harding, 22 years. Thank you to all these folks for their hard work and dedication to the Town of Cornwall. Some photos from the awards ceremony are included. Enjoy!!!!



Pictured above is Denny Rheume, Cornwall Fire Chief and to the right and left are the dynamic duo of Maurice & Barbara Laframboise, all with Secretary Markowitz.





Pictured to the left is Rodney Cadoret, our Delinquent Tax Collector for 29 years, and to the right is Ken Manchester, member of the CVFD for 44 years and the part of our road crew.



Pictured to the right is Joan Bingham, who served as Cornwall's Town Clerk for 25 + years, and now continues as our Asst. Clerk. To the left is Bob Bingham, who has done just about everything under the sun for Cornwall!!



Here is the whole gang, all together in one place. Congratulations to all of you. Thank you very much for your service to the town. It is appreciated.



## Cornwall Conservation Commission News

The Conservation Commission has begun work with Middlebury Area Land Trust (MALT) regarding conservation in the Beaver Brook watershed. The project was initiated by a town resident with long-standing interest in conservation of their lands in the watershed. As some of you may know, the Beaver Brook watershed covers about 1/3 of the town and has a lot of forest and wetland, which is valuable wildlife and plant habitat and appears to function as important wildlife connectivity lands also. Beaver Brook is a tributary of the Lemon Fair River, a waterway that has seen quite a bit of conservation

activity due to its importance for waterfowl and other wildlife. The Lemon Fair is also a stream that has been prioritized for reducing phosphorus loads into Lake Champlain. MALT has presented to the town twice this past spring, one a joint meeting of the Planning and Conservation Commissions. We'll all be expecting to hear more from MALT and our neighbors regarding the Beaver Brook project.

Opportunities for landowners to participate in conservation projects in the Beaver Brook and Lemon Fair watersheds, or any portion of town, are supported not only by MALT but also by the Vermont Agency of Natu-

ral Resources Departments of Environmental Conservation and Fish and Wildlife, US Fish and Wildlife Service Partners program, and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. These groups have programs (with some that compensate landowner) for a number of conservation actions, including water-quality protection and enhancement, forest management for bat habitat, and field and shrub land management for breeding birds. Interested landowners should contact these organizations directly, or contact Conservation Commission chairperson Marc Lapin (462-2514, [lapin@middlebury.edu](mailto:lapin@middlebury.edu)) for more information.

## Planning Commission Report

Subdivision applications have increased slightly over the same point in 2009 but still reflect the nationwide economic problems in the housing and credit markets.

Earlier this year the Planning Commission nominated Jim Duclos as the new Zoning Administrator, replacing Mike Brinkman after many years of dedicated service to Cornwall. The Selectboard ratified this nomination and Jim is busy, in addition to handling building permits, looking at the permitting process in

Cornwall to see if improvement can be made to make it better comply with current bank lending requirements. Mike continues in his position on the Planning Commission.

*The Cornwall Town Plan* will expire later this year and the Planning Commission has wrestled with its re-adoption or replacement. Many of the statistics and assumptions portrayed in the *Plan* are outdated and almost all implementation steps accomplished but so much work had gone into the 2005 *Plan* and its detailed questionnaire that

we looked for a way to use much of the underlying data. Our approach, which has been forwarded to the Selectboard for approval, is to re-adopt the *Plan* as currently written and then to embark on a 3 or 4 month effort to modify the *Plan* and reissue it around the end of this year. It is necessary to re-adopt the current *Plan* to keep our *Regulations* in place and to insure that Cornwall is eligible for state grant funding while we work on the updated *Plan*. A public hearing will be held prior to the re-adoption and public hearings will also be held as part of the newly revised *Plan* approval process.

So – despite the decrease in subdivision activity, the Planning Commission remains very busy. We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7:00 in the Town Hall and welcome all visitors.

Respectfully,  
Tracy Himmel-Isham & Jim Bolton,  
Co-Chairs

## 2010 Census Information

As of the printing of this newsletter, the town's of Bristol and Cornwall are tied for the highest participation rates in Addison County at 82%. I believe the census workers are just about finished with their work.

The nationwide participation rate is 77%, which is comparable to the 2000 census participation rate. Thanks to everyone who participated in the census count.

## *Cornwall Store at the Lavalley House, The Time is Now!*

After much discussion, investigation, survey work, professional consultation and planning, the Cornwall Historical Society and many others in the Town are committed to the restoration and revitalization of the Cornwall Store at the Lavalley House at this time because the project will:

Promote community activities and interaction among town residents

Strengthen our sense of community and revitalize the town's village center

Use an existing public building to provide a needed town service

Implement one major goal of the Cornwall Town Plan

Preserve a sound building on the State Register in the Cornwall Village Historic District

Take advantage of the building's location in the town center and the southern terminus of the bike route which is to be completed in 2010

Provide a new well with potable water for the Town Hall, the DAR building and the Cornwall Store at the Lavalley House

Utilize the original cash register, safe and other historic fixtures left in place when the store closed

Make available goods and services for Town residents and travelers not available anywhere else in Cornwall

Include space for small meetings and other community gatherings

Be renovated at a cost of under \$350,000, far less than the cost of a new building

Use no tax dollars although the majority of respondents to the Cornwall Planning Survey said they would approve of using town funds for this purpose

Build on the success of last year's farm stand at the Lavalley House

Enhance the visual appeal of the town's village center

Follow the lead of other Vermont towns' successes with similar projects

Should you wish to be part of this project to make the historic Cornwall Store at the Lavalley House a vital part of the future for our community, please contact Elizabeth Karnes Keefe at [keefe@middlebury.edu](mailto:keefe@middlebury.edu) or 462-3281.

***The Cornwall Free Public Library had a very successful book sale on June 26, 2010. We took in \$375.00. The library is still working on bar coding the books and hopefully before year end we will be able to distribute new library cards and start using the automated book check out system. Have Fun Reading this Summer. Stop by to see info about a kids reading initiative!!!!***

### *Select Board Report and Happenings*

This quarter the Select Board has:

finished the process of filling all but 6 of our 89 elected and appointed positions;

continued the legal process on one three-part grievance

dealt with the beavers of Douglas Road;

adopted a formal statement of Personnel Policies;

been briefed on our Emergency Operations Plan and responsibilities;

been briefed by the School Board and Principal on issues and progress at the Bingham School.

As regards appointed town positions we still need: Grand Juror, Auditor, Library Trustee, Delegate and Alternate to the Regional Planning Commission and a Fence Viewer.

Dealing with the beavers led to formally designating for each selector a specific

area of oversight so that when issues arise we can respond promptly. The areas assigned are as follows:

Mike Quesnel – Town properties, emergency services

Joe Severy – land issues

Nancy Kemp – public health

Judy Watts – finance

Bruce Hiland – roads and right of way

The first informal meeting with the School Board proved very helpful and we plan to do the same with the Planning Commission shortly. Since the town depends on volunteers for important work and major decisions we believe that improved communications will benefit all.

At our last Town Meeting a concern was voiced regarding what appeared to be a dramatic rise in the General Fund Budget over the past twenty years. While it does look that way at first glance a careful reading may provide more comfort to taxpay-

ers. The 1990 and 2010 Annual Reports show respectively proposed General Fund budgets (for each following fiscal year) of \$125.2 thousand and \$336.5 thousand. On the face of it that would be a 270% increase!

A closer reading, however, tells a different story. Inflation alone increases the 1990 figure from \$125.2 thousand to \$207.6 in current dollars. In addition the 2010 number includes \$120.0 thousand for our capital budget funding which did not exist in 1990. Thus a fairer comparison reduces the 2010 budget by that amount to \$216.5 which compares not so badly with the inflation adjusted 1990 amount of \$207.6 thousand.

Note: The capital budget was approved in 2009 to smooth the cost of replacing expensive heavy equipment (e.g. highway equipment, fire trucks) and consequently avoid the wide swings in budgets.



## *Cornwall Cemetery Commission Activities*

The Cornwall Cemetery Commission met in April 2010 and then twice more in early spring with the intention of making arrangements for continuing repairs and cleanup projects. Cornwall Town agreed to accept the return of responsibility for South Cemetery from the South Cornwall Cemetery Association due to their inability to continue funding the support of two cemeteries (Pleasant Hill which is private as well as South which belongs to the town). In Fair Cemetery, a load of topsoil has been delivered to the fence along Route 125 where mowing has been difficult.

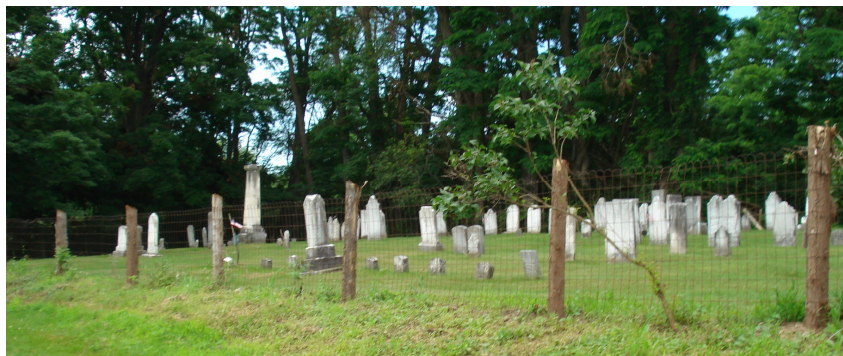
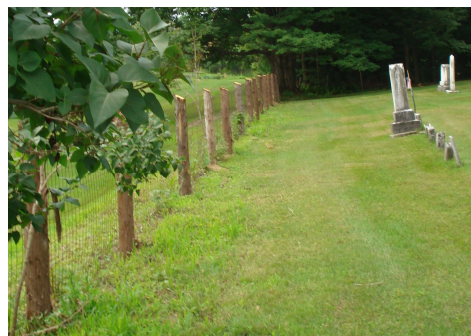
The current Cemetery Commission has five members: Nancy Kemp (President), Joan Bingham, Pat Anderson (Correspondent), Bruce Payne and Marc Ringey (Vice Chair).

Welcome to Marc and Bruce who 'volunteered' to join the Commission for the year.

Our spring 2010 efforts have been directed toward South Cemetery where the fence line needed care and there are several downed stones. A walk through South Cemetery on April 24 indicated four stones in need of repair, one of which is a Revolutionary War soldier. Dottie Ringey has a wonderful compendium of information about the folks who are buried there. We are in conversation with some professional stone masons in hopes that South headstones can be restored or repaired and plan to spend our allocated funds before July 1, 2010.

A work day was held at South on Saturday May 15 with wonderful results. The work crew was Pat Anderson, Dave Anderson, Bob Bingham, Joan Bingham,

Nancy Kemp, Larry Kemp, Bruce Payne, Jimmy Payne and Marc Ringey. Overgrowth at the east and north fence lines was clipped by the crew and then trimmed by Marc who is the mower / caretaker of the cemetery. Brush was disposed of and Joan provided donuts and coffee, which were much appreciated. Bob Bingham delivered 12 new fence posts which Marc Ringey will use to replace the most broken ones; the original fence will then be reattached. Eventually we hope to have several 'tippy' headstones straightened. Please see the attached photos of the happy crew!!





## *Historic Painted Theater Curtain is Coming to Cornwall!!*

In the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, many local Town Halls and Opera Houses had small stages, many of them featuring beautiful hand-painted theater curtains. Often created in sets of four, these curtains provided background scenery for various theatrical productions brought to towns all over Vermont. As you might imagine, as times changed, local theaters gave way to movie houses, and many of the painted theater curtains disappeared or were destroyed.

Several years ago, the Vermont Museum and Gallery Alliance started searching for any curtains still in existence in order to repair and conserve them for the pleasure of all of us in the 21st century. Although no curtains were found in the Cornwall Town Hall, one painted curtain was discovered upstairs in the Whiting Town Hall. After some discussion by the Whiting and Cornwall Select boards, it was agreed that the curtain – probably painted by Charles Henry, one of Vermont's finest curtain artists – will take up residence at the Cornwall Town Hall's stage, and the Cornwall Historical Society will work with the Painted Theater Curtain Project to get the job done.



According to Chris Hadsel, the project director, the Whiting curtain is a country scene backdrop, and is in “fair” condition. The painting is on cotton muslin, is quite dirty, and has several tears – particularly along the edges. The good news is that it is salvageable, and can be repaired, cleaned and hung again for everyone to see and enjoy. Later this summer, or early in the fall, the curtain will travel from Whiting to Cornwall, and over the course of three days, the conservation work will be done, hardware installed on the stage, and the curtain re-hung for everyone to see and enjoy.

This curtain, one of the final discoveries of the Vermont Painted Theater Curtain project, will require about \$1500 worth of work – all but \$500 of the \$1500 is already available. The balance, \$500, will need to come from local contributions. Several volunteers will also be needed to help with the cleaning and repair work. A couple of good volunteer carpenters will be also be needed to help with installation.

After the curtain is up again, The Cornwall Historical Society will present an evening of history and music, where you can come learn more about the curtain and its creator, and get a good look at this new addition to the Town Hall.

Contributions to the fund to preserve the curtain are MOST welcome, and can be sent to the Cornwall Historical Society, c/o Cy Tall, 204 Clark Road, Cornwall. If you would like to volunteer to assist the conservator with the work that will be done to repair and preserve the curtain or assist with the carpentry, please let Cy know, and she'll be in touch with you when final dates are set for the work.

The theater curtain will be a wonderful addition to our Town Hall – quite possibly replacing one of our own that disappeared in the mists of the past. Please help the Historical Society see this project through to its completion, either with a contribution or with a few hours of your time. It will be worth it!

## Town Awarded Grant for Emergency Generator

On the Friday before Town Meeting, we were notified that our application for an Emergency Shelter and Operations Center Generator had been approved by VT Emergency Management. Our request was for the purchase and installation of a generator at the Town Hall. When we applied for the grant, we were not certain when we would know the results, and this prompted us to place a request in the Town Meeting Warning for the full projected cost. With the awarding of the grant, we were able to amend our request to half that to meet the match funds requirement. The support of the town's people approving these funds is greatly appreciated.

Our proposal for installing the generator at the Town Hall serves a number of purposes; first, our town offices can continue to operate during a power outage (lucky Sue!), including the Library and meeting and activity spaces. From the Emergency Management perspective, we now have a location that we can designate as our Emergency Operations Center for any level of emergency or disaster. We will have the paperwork and resources we need stored on-site, and be able to quickly set up a response center to handle phone calls, obtain resources for first responders, and assess and plan

for the needs of the community. Knowing we can depend upon the availability of the building regardless of the power situation removes many of the challenges to planning.

In reality, most of our "disasters" (knock-on-wood) are relatively mild, resulting in power lines down or temporary road washouts. However, even these types of situations might warrant the Emergency Operations Center, simply to have one person who records what resources have been used, or to make calls to get additional materials or personnel. In addition to an Emergency Operations Center, which could, in fact, consist of just one or two people, the Town Hall will also serve as a place for people to come who don't have electricity, want to visit or use the library, and if needed, we will establish a shelter facility.

While we deal with our periodic mishaps, the world of Federal Emergency Management wants to see us preparing for "the big one." In our steps to prepare for larger-scale disasters, we will be seeking other volunteers to help staff our Emergency Operations Center. If we have to manage an evacuation, or handle anything affecting schoolchildren, there would be a need for more people to field the calls and requests for information. There are also opportunities for volunteers if we set up a shelter or Warming Shelter, or need to manage the distribution of resources to people. Over the summer and into next fall, we will be holding vari-

ous types of classes and activities to get people familiar with the idea, and hopefully build a team of volunteers we can call upon if needed. Once finalized, more information will be posted on the Emergency Management Network section of the Town's website.

The Emergency Management Network meets the third Thursday of the month at 5:30, at Town Hall, and anyone is welcome. You can also contact me directly, Kate: 462-2182, [giegues@shoreham.net](mailto:giegues@shoreham.net).

*And remember...*

Sign up for the Cornwall Connection email list to be informed of important town information (Swamp Rd status, for instance). Email [cornwallvt@shoreham.net](mailto:cornwallvt@shoreham.net) with "Cornwall Connection-Subscribe" in the Subject.

GET YOUR E911 SIGNS! Call the Fire Station at 462-2990 and leave a message or talk to a Department Member. It DOES make difference!

### Emergency Management Network

In the next edition of the Cornwall Newsletter, look for...

*things that have actually been scheduled!*

**Have a great summer!**

Kate Giegues, Cornwall Emergency Manager  
2698 West St, 462-2182, [giegues@shoreham.net](mailto:giegues@shoreham.net)

## Emergency Operations Center — Volunteer Staff Orientation

Find out how you can play an integral role in resource acquisition, documentation, information sharing, and other skills needed at an Emergency Operations Center.

Join the Emergency Management Network members in exploring the roles and responsibilities of EOC personnel. Later in the fall, participate as we set up a mock-EOC and convert our plans and studies into scenario-driven exercises.

**A great opportunity to learn new skills, work with different people, and contribute to the preparedness and response of our community!**

EOC Orientation Training is in development, but we anticipate offering a class by the end of summer. If you are interested, let Kate or Sue know, and we'll keep you posted.

Basic and pre-requisite courses are available online through at <http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist.asp>, including "ICS-100—Introduction to the Incident Command System," a prerequisite for, basically, anything Emergency Management.

## CPR Certification

Adult, Child, Infant CPR & Choking, plus AED

- Open to Cornwall Residents *(first)*
- \$10 per person *(\$15 for non-residents)*
- American Heart Association 2-year Certificate

This 3-hour course will be held at the Town Hall in mid- to late-September.

(Probably a Wednesday, and either 5-8pm, or 6-9pm.)

If you are *interested*, please notify us by **August 6<sup>th</sup>** (including time preference).

We'll finalize the date and time, and the actual registration deadline will be September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Contact Sue at 462-2775 or Kate at 462-2182, [giegues@shoreham.net](mailto:giegues@shoreham.net).



### **Severe Thunderstorms? Tornado Alerts!?? Earthquakes!??**

These are actual alerts and events we've experienced this season, and it's only July! That leaves: hail, hurricanes, drought, and... locust? So,

### **ARE YOU PREPARED???**

#### **Here are some things to consider...**

Have a supply of water on hand: for drinking, pets, and flushing the toilet

Have a plan for food in the 'fridge if the power is out for an extended period: fill a cooler with ice when severe weather is indicated; organize contents so you don't have to open it for long...

Have a telephone that works without power, but don't use it during a lightening storm!

Plan with your kids some activities that don't involve electronic gadgets.

Find out the plans for your child care/elder care/pet care centers.

Test your generator, under load, on regular basis (refer to manufacturer's recommendations).

Talk with your neighbors about emergency plans... in a major disaster, you and your neighbors may have to rely on yourselves during the immediate aftermath.

#### **And while you prepare, we plan...**

If an event extends through a day or affects a significant number of people, the Cornwall Emergency Management Network, working with the Fire Department/First Response, Highway, or other responding department, will take the following steps:

- Updates and information will be conveyed to **Vermont 2-1-1**, including shelter options, local food/water resources, road closures, travel recommendations, estimated timeframes, and where to get more details. Call 211 and ask for "updates for Cornwall."  
The purpose of this information relay is to divert general calls from the Town Clerk (or 9-1-1), but there will still be someone answering that number, or there will be details on the answering machine.
- An **Emergency Operations Center** may be established. This provides coordination of resources and information to those responding to the event, to the community, and to regional and state contacts. For most major incidents, the EOC will be located at the Town Hall.
- A town location may be set up as a food/water facility, or "**day shelter**," where people can come—depending on the season—to warm up, cool off, or just get out. Full Red Cross shelters would be set up in Middlebury or other area towns; Cornwall can offer a small-scale shelter but the primary need we foresee is a place for residents who prefer to stay at home during a power outage.
- The Town Hall will be equipped with a **generator** this summer. This will support the Emergency Operations Center and Day Shelter operations during any incident, and allow our diligent Town Clerk to continue working on the computer during short-term outages.
- One of the community resources on the computer is the **Cornwall Connection** email list: information is sent regarding road closures, some severe weather alerts, and other information that might affect how and where we go. During an emergency situation, updates would continue to be sent to list members. The list is confidential and managed by Sue. Join by sending an email to her at [cornwallvt@shoreham.net](mailto:cornwallvt@shoreham.net) with the subject: "Cornwall Connection" and write "sign up" in the subject line or message.

#### **...for a Safe and Ready Community**

We each need to do what we can to be self-sufficient and know how to protect ourselves and our property during a disaster. The Emergency Management Network meets the 3rd Thursday at Town Hall, at 5:30. Contact Kate Gieges (462-2182, [gieges@shoreham.net](mailto:gieges@shoreham.net)), or Sue Johnson for more information. Look for upcoming training opportunities in this newsletter, and on the Cornwall website, [www.cornwall.govoffice2.com](http://www.cornwall.govoffice2.com).

## ICS-402—Incident Command System Overview for Executives and Senior Officials

This is targeted to Selectboard Members and management-level officials, but open to anyone interested in learning about:

- what the Incident Command System is, what the organizational basis is, how it incorporates the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- various approaches to emergency operations and response management systems
- how ICS is used to coordinate personnel, resources, and response efforts

This will be offered to Selectboards and administrators in the region and held in the Middlebury-area in late August or September. This approximately 2-hour course will be presented by Tim Bouton, Senior Emergency Planner with the A. C. Regional Planning Commission. You can contact him at 388-3141 or Kate at 462-2182 for more information. Details, including RSVP deadline, will be posted on the Cornwall website and the Addison County Emergency Planning Committee's site at [www.aclepc.org](http://www.aclepc.org).



**FEMA**

## *Road Commissioner's Report*

So, I was asked by the Select Board to put together an overview of what I thought were the transportation issues facing Cornwall. They have opted to have it published in this newsletter. Therefore, I'm thinking this will be short and sweet.....well short.

As I write, the electricians are upgrading the electrical service entrance and preparing for the standby generator set up.

Pike Industries was low bid on the Swamp Road paving. As expected, we did not receive the Class II paving grant, so we'll only do the Route 30 end. Hopefully with a grant next year we can do the rest.

I finally moved ahead with the purchase of a new roadside mowing unit. It is the same style that most other towns in the county are running. The universally perfect unit has yet to be built, or I haven't seen it. The ones that come close cost too much. So this one will do the first and second pass and save wear and tear on the old one. The thought is to continue to

use it (the old one) to get back a little farther periodically. We may also go in with several other towns to rent a big mower for a few days this fall, to get after a few spots in town.

Backing up to the herbicide spray permit process. At the hearing we withdrew our application when we sensed resistance. While there was some concern about our choice of products to use, the primary issue was they wanted a more detailed management plan. Though we followed the template and answered the questions it wasn't bureaucratic enough. For example, what we referred to as undesirable species, they wanted a list. The fact an undesirable at one site in town may have to be the desirable somewhere else was lost on them. They suggested we replace our 2 page document with a rework of the VTrans 1/2" thick document. We hope to work with the Ag people this

fall to put together a plan for next year that is more suited to the towns. The hearing process was interesting and informative. To watch the machinations of bureaucracy is always somewhere between frustrating and unbelievable.

Much of the culvert work will be on West St. this summer, upgrading the culvert at Payne's and the one south of the Bolduc Farm. We'll try to get signs up ahead of time.

Most of the ditching will be on the south end of town this year. A few have asked about fill. If you'd like some fill where its easy for us to get to, let me know. If we can, we'll help you out.

All right, not so short either!!!

Stu



## *Priorities and Overview of State and Town Highways in Cornwall*

Two of the most glaring issues regarding the highways in Cornwall will soon be dealt with, those being the horrid condition of Route 30 and the dilapidated state of the Lemon Fair Bridge on Route 125. That leaves the horrid condition of Route 74 and most of Route 125. While we are ragging on VTrans, the Lemon Fair Bridge on Route 74 at the bottom of Audet's ledges in Shoreham is in tough shape.

The culvert on the outlet brook of Douglas Pond under Route 30 was flagged during the hydraulic study on our Douglas Pond culvert as inadequate and has some serious wing wall failures allowing the road to sag. My money says they will just pave over it. A few years ago during some safety study BS, they were looking for high crash sites. At that point I identified the hollow and approaches at Evergreen Road as the highest fatality site in Town. Leading accident sites would probably be the Route 125 and West Street intersection (to be changed with bridge work) and the bend at Route 125 and Hamblin Road. Route 125/Cider Mill Road/James Road, while scary doesn't seem to have the numbers since the upgrade. Again, not in Cornwall but Audet's ledges has been a fairly prolific crash site as well.

As for Cornwall's highways, the priority is to maintain what we have. Paving will be the biggest challenge. As stated many times before....we have 12.69 miles of pavement. Optimistically assuming a 10 year paving cycle we should pave an average of 1.25 miles each year. That would be about 1875 tons of HMA (Hot Mix Asphalt), times this years bid price of \$64.75 equals \$121,400. The budget is \$68,000. In 2005, we paid \$35.40 per ton with a \$55,000 budget line. While state Class II funding is up slightly, we still can only expect it every 3 – 4 years, and it is being stretched hard by the same price increases mentioned. All this tells why we won't be paving any gravel roads in the near future even if they should be.

Again as discussed many times before, we seem to be dealing with 25 year storms (Q25) on a regular basis of late. I am working with a culvert manufacturer to upgrade a problem culvert at Payne's farm on West Street. This will be a demonstration/test site for a relatively new product. We will get the culvert for a reduced price or possibly free.

The issues at Napier's were brought on by debris coming down stream. The culvert is short and could be larger. I may put in an overflow to protect the road for the interim.

The culvert on Evergreen needs to be raised as the swale has filled with eroded soils. At that time upsizing would be appropriate.

The large bore culverts on Cutting Hill, Wooster, Clark and Galvin can't really be enlarged but other tubes added.

We received a Better Backroads Grant notice of approval for upgrading a culvert and ditching on Sperry Road assuming they get their poop in a group after their field tech left. VTrans is holding money for a culvert replacement grant project at SD Ventures (Bolduc's farm) on West Street. We're quibbling over the size, but should get that done this summer. Of course another Q25 somewhere else in town could change all of this.

In the bridge arena, obviously the covered bridge is the primary concern. VTrans inspects it every two years and points out issues. Probably 10 years ago I suggested hiring a consultant/contractor with covered bridge experience to identify, plan and do maintenance work. Salisbury dropped it – they won't pay realistic insurance costs. Anyway, it shouldn't be an issue for a few years, but it is still something to think about down the road. The multiplate on Beaver Brook/Sperry Road also gets inspected periodically and seems to be fine. I suspect beaver dams upstream are its biggest threat for failure. I don't believe the Peet Road Bridge has been state inspected recently. Within a few years, when the deck needs replacing,

I will propose replacing it with several culverts, primarily for more width to accept the wider farm equipment.

Equipment:

We are in very good shape with regards to equipment. The capital plan allows for a systematic replacement. Some questions are arising whether the truck replacement schedule is realistic or not but time will tell. The longevity of technology and the cost to maintain it is where the questions are seated.

We may deal with part of the mower issue here shortly. I think it is inevitable we will want/need to get involved with bringing in a bigger mower, probably a rental, to deal with some brush spots around town. Hand cutting is just labor intensive, not real efficient and dangerous.

Facility:

The energy audit that was done here (for free) as part of the geothermal debacle, suggested a \$12,000 air exchange system. I didn't think so....

The sand shed continues to stand as is. The salt shed is adequate without a state wide shortage per a few years ago. The grader still sits outside year round. I'm hatching a plan to build a small lean-to/shed for the mower/disks, etc. out of the last of our roadside lumber. I've ordered another chloride storage tank which will greatly increase our flexibility during spring work not having to coordinate with the availability of product down to the last minute.

I'm trying to move ahead with the gen set and electrical upgrade. Back to the energy audit, while there are some things we can do, they are more concerned with air quality than other things. I would think insulation upstairs as mentioned in the audit would help without a big effect on air quality, but like has been stated by many – open a couple of 12' X 12' garage doors and what is in the attic is a drop in the bucket.

Summary:

We are in good shape. The challenge will be to maintain the level of service people have come to expect, maintain the infrastructure and do it cost effectively with rising costs.

## Town of Cornwall

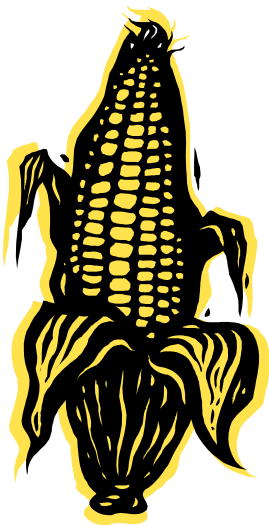
2629 Route 30

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### *Cornwall Listers Report*



*Ab, Sweet Corn!!!!*

The Cornwall listers considered several requests for reconsideration of appraisals of property, most as a result of the town wide reappraisal done in 2009.

For those properties where appraisals were changed, change of appraisal notices were sent out in May. Any property owners who received a change of appraisal notice were able to “grieve” if they were not satisfied with the results of the change of appraisal. By state law, any grievance hearings must be scheduled within 14 days of the mailing of change of appraisal no-

tices.

A result of grievance notice was mailed to the taxpayer within 7 days of the close of grievance hearings. Taxpayers were further able to appeal to the Board of Civil Authority via the Town Clerk within 14 days of the mailing of the Result of Grievance Notice.

Reappraisals for 2010-2011 have been completed. We hope you will contact the listers’ office if you have questions about the reappraisal or grievance process.

### HELP WANTED!!!

There is a position open for a lister for the Town of Cornwall. Listers are responsible for helping to determine the equitable assessment of fair market values of properties in town. Training is provided by the State of Vermont. The position is part time with flexible hours, some during the day. Applicants must be a resident of Cornwall. Please leave a message at the Listers’ office at 802-462-3386 if interested.